UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, DC

In the Matter of:

GORDON AIR SERVICES

FAA Order No. 97-24

Served: July 1, 1997

Docket No. CP96SO0160

ORDER GRANTING COUNSEL LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

AND EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE APPEAL BRIEF

On January 29, 1997, Administrative Law Judge Burton S. Kolko issued an oral initial decision assessing Respondent Gordon Air Services a \$3,600 civil penalty, payable in \$100 monthly installments, for violating the Federal Aviation Regulations. On February 7, 1997, Respondent filed a "Motion for Rehearing/Reconsideration," asking the law judge to reduce the civil penalty.

The law judge construed Respondent's "Motion for Rehearing/Reconsideration" as a notice of appeal and forwarded it to the Appellate Docket Clerk for consideration by the FAA Decisionmaker. In his order captioned, "Order Forwarding Motion to Appellate Docket," the law judge advised Respondent that it had 50 days to perfect its appeal by filing an appeal brief (under 14 C.F.R. § 13.233(c)).

Respondent filed two requests for extension of time, both of which the Decisionmaker granted. Then, a week before the latest deadline for Respondent's appeal brief, Respondent's counsel moved to withdraw as counsel, explaining that

differences had arisen between counsel and his client and that Respondent had failed to meet its financial commitments to counsel.

Counsel for Respondent is granted leave to withdraw as counsel.

Respondent is granted 30 days from the service date of this order to file its appeal brief, either on its own or through new counsel. No further extensions of time to file the appeal brief will be granted.

BARRY L. VALENTINE

Acting Administrator

Federal Aviation Administration

VICKI S. LEEMON

Manager, Adjudication Branch

Issued this 1st day of July, 1997.

¹ Issued under authority delegated to the Chief Counsel and the Assistant Chief Counsel for Litigation by Memorandum dated October 27, 1992, under 49 U.S.C. § 322(b) and 14 C.F.R. § 13.202 (see 57 Fed. Reg. 58,280 (1992)) and redelegated by the Assistant Chief Counsel for Litigation to the Manager, Adjudication Branch, by Memorandum dated August 6, 1993.